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ALLEN-SCOTT REPORT

Inside Washington

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Cuban Red on 'Hot Spot'

WASHINGTON -- Ernest "Che" Guevara, top Communist lieutenant of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro, is at another turning point in his revolutionary career. He must either produce a successful Communist take-over in Guatemala or face the same fate as that of ousted Algerian Premier Ben Bella, who intelligence now believes lost his job for fouling up the Kremlin's attempt to depose Congo's Premier Tshombe.

Guevara's "final chance" was decreed by Soviet leaders when the guerrilla warfare expert failed to pull off Communist take-overs in the Dominican Republic and Brazil.

According to latest intelligence estimates, Guevara is back in Havana after a covert trip to the mountain region of Guatemala, where he met with local Communist guerrilla leaders to map plans for a step-up in their attacks.

MOSCOW ORDERS

The one-time Argentine physician and close henchman of Castro was given the Guatemalan mission by Sergei Mikoyan, son of Anastas I. Mikoyan, Soviet chief of state, who brought the orders from Moscow when he visited Havana earlier this month.

Mikoyan met with Guevara, Castro and a six-man delegation of the Italian Communist Party, which now has a major role in subverting Latin America.

The Italian group was led by Mario Alicata, member of his party's secretariat and national directorate, and editor-in-chief of the Italian Communist Party organ L'Unita of Rome.

Information obtained by U. S. Intelligence in Rome indicated that Mikoyan warned Guevara the Guatemala operation would be his last.

structed Guevara to give up his post as Cuba's industry minister and devote full time to his new assignment.

OLD STAMPING GROUNDS

Guatemala is not a new battleground for Guevara. He served in President Jacobo Arbenz' pro-Communist regime in 1953 until Guatemalan Colonel Carlos Castillo Armas launched a successful counter-revolution.

Although Guevara dashed around Guatemala City trying to organize a resistance force, Arbenz capitulated without a fight. Guevara then fled to the Argentine embassy, vowing to return some day.

Since Guevara was one of 81 men who accompanied Castro on his 1956 invasion of Cuba, U. S. intelligence wouldn't be surprised if the Argentine-born Communist has set up a permanent headquarters inside Guatemala.

At present, he is directing shipments of arms and trained guerrilla fighters from Cuba to the Caribbean trouble spot, as he did to the Dominican Republic.

NEW CRISIS

Unless swift preventive action is taken jointly by the U. S. and Guatemala, intelligence authorities warn, the U. S. will have to

send in Marines to block a Communist take-over before winter.

Since Castro took over control in Cuba in 1959, "Che" has taken a series of crucial steps. He cut Cuba's principal economic ties with the West and hooked them to the Communist world. He arranged the deals to build up Cuba's defenses with Soviet arms and directed Cuba's revolutionary activities in Latin America.

Because of Guatemala's strategic location and the Kremlin ultimatum, Guevara's latest

the most ominous for the West — and himself.

RUSSIAN MISSILES

New evidence indicates that Russia may be building bases for ground-to-ground missiles in North Viet Nam as well as for anti-aircraft rockets.

Photographs by high-speed reconnaissance planes show that at least one base near Hanoi is being constructed very similar to the medium range ballistic missile bases discovered in Cuba, which touched off the 1962 missile crisis.

While none of these 900 to 1,200-mile range missiles have been spotted by U. S. reconnaissance planes, several large missile carriers capable of hauling these 90-foot rockets have been located in parking areas near Haiphong, North Viet Nam's major seaport.

At the base northeast of Hanoi, large cement foundations of the size necessary to hold MRBM launchers have been poured and storage areas cleared for the missiles.

Neither the cement foundations or the storage facilities are needed for the Russian-made SAM ground-to-air missiles, which both Moscow and Washington admit the Soviets are installing.

Although briefed on this ominous new development, President Johnson has ordered no counter-measures except additional reconnaissance flights to keep closer surveillance of activities there.

As during the Cuban missile crisis, the U-2 photographs showing the MRBM base construction are being tightly restricted. Less than a dozen officials within the administration have seen them.

INTELLIGENCE FLASHES

CIA Director William Raborn is looking for a new "press officer." He launched the hunt after a national TV network presented a very critical show of the super-secret intelligence agency. His former press adviser had arranged to have several CIA officials cooperate with the network. . . Films produced in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the Soviet Union and Communist China, almost all of a propaganda nature, are being supplied film dealers in Latin America without charge, according to a report on Communist subversion prepared by the Organization of American States.

NOTE: The boxed portion of this article did not appear in the 1 July issue of the NORTHERN VIRGINIA SUN.

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